

## **Job Title: State Natural Area Steward**

**Mission:** A volunteer position that will support the Wisconsin DNR by performing native plant community restoration vital to the health of rare species living on an assigned State Natural Area (SNA). They will be the volunteer leader of the site.

**Supervision:** Regional Volunteer Coordinator, SNA Manager

**Length of Appointment:** Minimum of two years.

**Time Commitment:** A minimum of 40 hours volunteer time per year.

### **Key Responsibilities:**

- Perform native plant community restoration duties as necessary which may include but is not limited to: invasive species removal, brush removal, seed collecting, planting seed, mowing, preparing fire breaks, monitoring, etc.
- Work with the Regional Volunteer Coordinator to develop native plant community restoration priorities and objectives, including yearly management objectives.
- Regularly record activities and hours as instructed by the Regional Volunteer Coordinator.
- Visit the chosen SNA on a quarterly basis to function as a look out for invasive plants, check for rare species, observe effectiveness of management activity, check sign upkeep, and watch for illegal activities.
- Maintain communication with the Regional Volunteer Coordinator regarding activities, plans, and observations.
- Use manual or mechanical means (brushcutters, chainsaws, loppers, herbicide, etc.) to remove invasive species.
- Organize volunteer work days as able.
- Train and lead other volunteers as needed.
- Sign and manage appropriate forms.
- Other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications:** 18 years old, an interest in SNAs, available time, complete Apprentice Steward position or have necessary plant community restoration experience, able to cultivate a positive environment, able to tolerate various weather conditions and traverse on uneven terrain, ability to work independently and as a team, ability to mobilize and teach a group of volunteers not needed but desired, willingness to learn, other skills are welcome.

**Support:** Communication with the Regional Volunteer Coordinator as needed. An annual meeting will be scheduled with the Regional Volunteer Coordinator to develop yearly management objectives. Training, tools, and herbicides for this position will be provided as needed. Workdays will be advertised on the SNA volunteer website.

**Benefits:** The Volunteer Steward will have the opportunity to learn what it takes to manage a high quality remnant site. There are opportunities to work independently as well as with others, take on new projects, meet interesting people, train others, and discover the unique challenges presented by restoration activities.